GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4471
ANSWERED ON:14.12.2016
Apprenticeship Act
Noor Smt. Mausam

Will the Minister of SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Apprenticeship Act has been amended so that companies no longer have to hire atleast 50% of their apprentices for regular employment and they are to provide only a preference to them and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government received any representations or suggestions indicating such demands from any industry body/organisation or State Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government has taken a final decision to revoke relevant provisions in the apprentice act to nullify any mandatory hiring provision; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

(a) to (c) Several suggestions/ recommendations were received from various stakeholders to make changes in the Apprentices Act, 1961. These suggestions/ recommendations were discussed in an Inter-Ministerial Group(IMG) having representatives from Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Micro Small Medium Enterprises, Ministry of Power, Ministry of Defence, Planning Commission, NSDA. The recommendations of IMG were discussed in the CAC-a tri-partite statutory body having members from Govt. (both Central and State/UTs), Employers etc. After considering suggestions from different stakeholders, the Apprentices Act, 1961 has been amended in December, 2014 wherein it has been provided that "Every employer shall formulate its own policy for recruiting any apprentice who has completed the period of apprenticeship training in his establishment."

(d) & (e) No madam. There is no mandatory hiring provision under the Apprentices Act, 1961.